

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 07813 071325Z

45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-15 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 CCO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OPR-02 SY-10 OC-06 EB-11 SCS-03

SCA-01 DRC-01 /177 W
----- 041620

R 071236Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0008
USMISSION USUN NY
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
USINTACAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 7813

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT IS

SUBJ: ISRAEL SITUATION REPORT

1. GENERAL CONDITIONS IN COUNTRY. AS OF NOON OCTOBER 7, ISRAELI PUBLIC HAS RESPONDED TO WAR SITUATION IN ORDERLY AND CALM FASHION. SCENE IN MAJOR CITIES IS LESS BUSY THAN USUAL BUT SOME IF NOT MOST NORMAL COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY IS CONTINUING. BLACKOUT PREVAILED THROUGHOUT COUNTRY NIGHT OF OCTOBER 6. THERE HAS BEEN MASSIVE BUILDUP OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR TAKING RESERVISTS TO FRONTS. CIVILIAN VEHICULAR TRAFFIC CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN USUAL. LOD AIRPORT IS CLOSED EXCEPT FOR POSSIBLE EL AL FLIGHTS AT NIGHT.

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 07813 071325Z

ALL SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED. ALMOST ALL STORES AND GAS STATIONS ARE

OPEN IN CITIES, BUT STAFF SHORTAGES ARE CAUSING CLOSURES IN SMALL TOWNS. THERE ARE NO SHORTAGES OF ESSENTIAL FOOD ITEMS AT THIS TIME, ALTHOUGH SOME STORES ARE LIMITING SALES TO PREVENT HOARDING. MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY HAS ASSURED PUBLIC THAT THERE ARE ENOUGH FOOD RESERVES FOR MANY DAYS. RADIO AND TV PROVIDING LIMITED MILITARY INFORMATION AND CIVIL EMERGENCY INSTRUCTIONS

2. MOOD OF MEDIA. ISRAELI PRESS PUZZLED OVER WHY SYRIA AND EGYPT DECIDED TO ATTACK; EDITORIAL COMMENT IS SKEPTICAL ABOUT VIRTUE OF ANY INTERNATIONAL ROLE IN HALTING HOSTILITIES. DAVAR HAS URGED IDF TO COMPLETE THE CHAPTER THAT WAS NOT COMPLETED IN SIX DAY WAR.

3. US CITIZENS. ALL US CITIZENS ARE SAFE TO BEST OF EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE. SINCE 8AM ABOUT 100 US TOURISTS HAVE COME TO EMBASSY FOR GUIDANCE AND ANOTHER 100 HAVE TELEPHONED. EMBASSY HAS ADVISED ALL AMERICAN TOURISTS TO STAY IN THEIR PRESENT LOCATIONS AND TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH AIRLINE OFFICES FOR INFORMATION ON RESUMPTION OF AIR SERVICES.

4. EMBASSY OPERATIONS. COMMUNICATIONS ARE ON 24 HOUR BASIS AND EMBASSY CONSULAR SECTION OPEN OVER COLUMBUS DAY WEEKEND TO HELP AMERICAN CITIZENS.
KEATING

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